

### **SUGGESTED OUTLINE FOR CHILD'S SUMMARY**

- 1) Identifying Data:** Name, birth date, race, sex, religion.
- 2) Child's Personality and History:**
  - a) Appearance: Height, weight, coloring, facial and body characteristics. Be specific about unusual characteristics;
  - b) Current emotional adjustment: Current generalized emotional responses; i.e., crying, or contented, demanding, exploring, passive;
  - c) Child's life experience;
    - Describe child's life experience in his/her natural home, including description of abuse and neglect.
    - Describe child's life experience outside his own home if placed in out-of-home care. Include the age of the child at placement, child's reaction to separation from parents, significant happenings with each out-of-home care placement, reason for changes, child's reaction to change.
    - School progress.
  - d) Child's understanding, if appropriate to age, of reasons for placements;
  - e) Present living situation of the child;
  - f) Inter-relationships with people:
    - Attitudes of others to child: Birth parents, foster or adoptive family, children in the home or institution, Children's Services Workers, playmates outside home, teachers, etc.
    - Attitudes of child to parents and others who have provided care.
    - Relationship with siblings, if applicable.
    - Relationships, if any, with intended family in receiving county.
- 3) Development History:**
  - a) Prenatal, including mother's physical and emotional health during pregnancy;
  - b) Mother's medical care during pregnancy; serology results and treatment, if administered;

- c) Father's health history;
- d) Details of delivery and neonatal history;
- e) Health history, including current medical information;
- f) Illnesses and hospitalizations; diagnosis and treatment; age at onset, duration, prognosis;
- g) Growth and development;
- h) Professional observations of development. (Include results of psychological test, if done and school reports.)

**4) Natural Family:**

- a) Composition of family;
- b) Mother: Age at delivery, physical appearance, religion, physical and mental health, (discuss in detail if significant for child's placement and future adjustment) general personality, including interests and talents; observation of adequacy of mother's functioning with reasons for this; school and employment history;
- c) Father: (Same as mother);
- d) Siblings of child, if any, and extended family (Significant information affecting the child's placement and future adjustment.);
- e) Child's legal status;
- f) Court of jurisdiction and date court assumed jurisdiction;
- g) Date(s) of termination of parental rights and/or legal/putative parents consented to adoption; and
- h) Present permanency plan including date of last administrative review and recommendation.

**5) Evaluation** of child's present needs and type of home desired for the child.  
Reason for desired placement in another county.

MEMORANDA HISTORY: